

The Election—Convention.

By the State law, the election should be ordered and published in the several election precincts two weeks prior to the day of election. We notice that the order has been published in the Charleston papers, and the managers appointed for that precinct. But no such publication has been made here, nor, we believe, has any appeared in any other of the precincts. Still, as the Provisional Government supercedes that of the State, for the time, we apprehend that it is within the power of the Governor to give what notice he thinks proper; though it must be evident that the more time allowed the better, especially when the means for the diffusion of intelligence are so limited and so much embarrassed as at present. Should the Convention confine itself to the single object of reconstruction—assuming that to be the desire of the several constituencies—then the business of the Convention may be despatched in a few days; certainly within the compass of a single week. We have already indicated what are the special requisitions of the United States Government, and there can be no difficulty, these requisitions complied with, of determining what constitutes a Republican State. It will be impossible, if any debate shall arise, on the internal policies of the State, as regards the apportionment of taxation and representation, to compass the object of reconstruction within such a period, as to bring about the general and congressional elections in season. It is very evidently the wish, as it certainly is the policy, of President Johnson, to have the State take her place in Congress at the next session; and this may be done, unless the radicals shall, on some pretext or other, oppose the admission. Their strength in the present Congress may succeed in baffling the wishes of the President. Of course, if reconstruction be desirable to our people, our constitution should be so framed as to give no pretexts to the opposition for such a course; and, perhaps, no safer policy could be found than in as close an adherence to the former constitution as possible. The election of the Governor, by the people, is reported to be a part of the policy of the Provisional Governor. It is denied, for him, that he desires to give the election of the judges to the people. The subjects of discussion in the Convention are likely to be the Governor's election, the Parish representation, and the apportionment of taxes—the latter promising to be a subject of vast difficulty, involving, as it must, a new appraisement of the value of property. The loss of the negro property will necessitate a very large increase of the taxes on every other kind of chattel, as well as upon lands. The great impoverishment of the South, especially in the devastated regions, will, at the same time, render necessary the strictest economy in the State expenditure, the cutting down of salaries and appropriations, and, perhaps, the discontinuance of sundry offices themselves. The financial problem will, for some years, prove one of the most difficult of solution, as it is very sure these loans can hardly be effected with any foreign State or party, while it will be difficult to say on what basis the security for such loans may be established. The people are earnestly exhorted to send sound, sensible, working men to Convention and Legislature alike—acute and experienced lawyers, merchants of high acknowledged standing, and financiers of equal probity and intelligence, with a fair share of thinking planters and mechanics. The mere spouting gentry should be permitted a season of repose at home in the bosoms of their wives and little ones.

**SAN DOMINGO.**—The Vice-President of the Provisional Government of San Domingo, an Englishman, proposes to cede that island to England, and the proposal is now a subject of consideration in the hands of a commission appointed to report upon the motion. And this after a long term of so-called independence.

Gen. John P. Hatch retires from the Military District of Charleston, leaving the command to Gen. Bennett.

Negro Suffrage.

Here is a race to which the Abolitionists would accord the right of suffrage, to which race the Government cannot accord the privilege of making a contract. It says to Cuffee, substantially, "My poor fellow, you are in such bonds of ignorance that you are not able to make a bargain for your daily labor. We must make it for you. You will otherwise be defrauded, or defraud yourselves. You are so many little children, that you must be kept under guardianship. You are strong in numbers, but weak in intellect. We must treat you as we treat idiots; see that you have supervisors; and for this purpose, we keep some fifty thousand men, to keep you from doing mischief and suffering from harm." At this very moment, a class of politicians say to the negro: "You are equal to self-government. Self-government implies the right, based upon the assumed capacity, to make laws; to choose law-givers; to become law-givers yourselves; to philosophize in respect to government, society, civilization; the existing policies of nations, and what should become your policy as a nation yourselves. You are henceforth to go to Congress, to the Legislature, to become presidents of railroads and banks; preachers of the Gospel; professors in colleges; to write books of art, poetry and philosophy; to experiment in science; may, to become ministers to foreign courts, and furnish presidents to this great republic." Poor cuffee! He is bewildered. What wonder if he says, "Moussa, 'spose you gee us some letters now, and leff de presidency for anoder time." What magicians these Abolitionists are. At one moment, Cuffee must be taken care of by soldiers and statesmen, so that he shall be sure to get his allotted rations of pumpkins and potatoes; and, *prostra*, in another moment, he is to prove himself philosopher, statesman, law-giver and professor in the colleges.

Virtue is still in the ascendant. Its ramifications are widely spread, and its agents as wonderfully liberal as active. Notice the following, and see what bountiful vitality she possesses in our sister city of Augusta:

"We see by the *Augusta Chronicle and Sentinel* that the case of Thomas S. Metcalf and Leopold Cohn, having undergone official investigation at headquarters Provost Marshal, Augusta, has been disposed of as follows: The above gentlemen were charged with attempting to bribe General Grosvenor, a United States officer, in the sum of \$200,000, to decide a certain question as to the title of a lot of cotton in their favor. Mr. Cohn makes the following admission:

"I admit the truth of the charge and specifications contained therein, in every particular, and appeal to Major-General Steedman for his clemency in my behalf. L. COHN."

"Said clemency was granted, and Mr. Cohn ordered to leave the Department of Georgia in twenty-four hours. Mr. Metcalf, disclaiming any intention to offer a bribe in connection with Mr. Cohn, was, after apologizing for improper conduct, released from arrest. The money deposited with General Grosvenor, in part payment of the offer of two hundred thousand dollars, was ordered to be distributed among the poor of Augusta."

The *Charleston Courier* has a column or more entitled "The Restoration of Property one of the Necessities for Relief." From all that we can see and hear, the abandonment of property will be the only mode to escape ruin. What with losses, repairs, taxes and charges, there will be little left for proprietorship. If ever a people were effectually ruined, to utter prostration of all their faculties, these Southern people are. Talk of your \$20,000 clauses! The men worth \$200,000 a year ago are hardly worth \$200 now. They may snap their fingers at law, as we suppose they do at gospel.

The *Washington Republican* understands that Maj. Gen. Philip B. Sheridan endorses the proposition of the merchants and planters of the Southwest set forth in their petition to the President, to tax all cotton 15 per cent, and to abandon its attempt to confiscate any of the staple on account of any supposed right acquired by the United States on account of it having been claimed by the Confederate Government as its property.

We are indebted to Purser H. Johnson, of the Moneka, and to Purser Frederick W. Ely, of the Quaker City, for their polite attentions. The news will be found highly interesting. There has been great excitement in financial circles in all the principal Northern cities, in consequence of the late extensive defalcations of Ketchum and Jenkins. Since then, the attention of the business community in New York has been directed to other suspicious parties. Two more defaultering individuals were discovered; one a teller in a Wall street bank, the other an employee of the railroad company. None of the guilty parties had been arrested except Jenkins. Nothing further has been learned of the whereabouts of young Ketchum. The Wall street bank officer, whose defalcation amounted to one hundred thousand dollars, fled to Canada. Albert A. Jones, the employee of the Erie Railroad Company, started for Aspinwall *en route* for Eldorado.

Mr. Charles Graham, the broker of Edward B. Ketchum, has nearly completed his account of losses. They will amount, exclusive of the forged paper which he redeemed, to about \$1,045,000, which, with the \$285,000 for which he holds forged certificates, will swell the total to \$1,330,000, including the money stated to be the losses of the Importers' and Traders' Bank, the Fourth National Bank, Dabney, Morgan & Co. and Ketchum & Co., who held \$80,000 worth of the forged paper. The whole sum of the losses by the Ketchum defalcation will not much exceed \$4,000,000.

Mr. Graham will speedily effect a settlement with his creditors. About forty per cent. of the claims against him no doubt will be paid.

The gold market has been firm, but without much activity. The opening price was 143½, followed by an advance to 143¾, a decline of ½, and a recovery to 143½, at which it closed.

There has been very little done in foreign exchange, but drawers show little disposition to relax their rates. For prime sixty days bills 109½ to 110 is asked; but sales, second hand, have been made at 103½.

The recent heavy cotton receipts have had a depressing effect upon the market, and caused speculation to withdraw in anticipation of buying at lower prices. The sales were confined almost exclusively to the trade for consumption, and prices had a downward tendency. The sales comprise 1,750 bales. We quote Ordinary 37; middling 44; good middling 46.

[*Charleston Courier*, 28th.]

**THE LONDON TIMES ON THE NEGRO.**—The *London Times* takes a very discouraging view of the negroes in their present condition. It says:

Helpless, impulsive, ignorant, with little payment to expect for regular work, with ease, new-found liberty, and opportunity to tempt them to violence and plunder, can we wonder if the existing industry of the South has very little to hope from the assistance of the black freedmen, and if, on the other hand, the great mass of the slaves seems destined to perish together with the system which, if it tyrannized over, brutalized and degraded them, had, at any rate, the merit of providing them with food, lodging and clothing?

It is easy for a victorious Government by a few words to strike off the fetters of the slave, and suddenly dislocate and destroy the industry of a whole community, but it is not easy to find an answer to this awful question, which it has raised for itself, and which every day more and more importunately demands an answer.

The *Montreal Herald*, of August 17, says: "The voluntary examination of the four prisoners, Walter Clayton, Wm. Ames Blossom, Wayne W. Blossom and Charles Hogan Adams, was brought to a conclusion yesterday afternoon, when the men were fully committed to take their trial at the next Court of Queen's Bench, on five charges, viz: One of conspiracy, one of kidnapping and three of shooting, with intent to murder. We understand that Mr. Devlin, the advocate of the prisoners, intends to make application for a writ of *habeas corpus*, with a view to bail, on Friday next.

An opportunity has been afforded by the Government, to owners of farms upon which forts have been erected, to receive the buildings and other property left in dismantling the works as compensation for the occupation of the land. A few have already accepted the offer, but as there still remains a large amount of valuable property unaccepted, requiring guards for its protection, it is probable that the Government will shortly withdraw the offer, remove the buildings, &c., and leave the owners of lands the unpromising alternative of their claims for compensation through Congress.

POLITICAL STATUS OF THE SOUTH.

The South has been conquered, but it is still an open question how it is henceforth to be ruled. The combat between Federals and Confederates may be over, but the contest between Republicans and Democrats is about to be recommenced. Under these circumstances it is impossible to avoid feeling that the Southern people are exercising a sound discretion in accepting the consequences of the military success of their late opponents, and once more undertaking the duties of loyal citizens to the established Government. In many respects the South is much better placed than such nations as the Polish or the Hungarian, which have endeavored in vain to free themselves from an oppressive yoke. The Government in the United States is constantly changing, and, although in the minority at present, the Democrats may once more secure the ascendant. What may be the future of the South it is impossible to say, but it could never do such as to bear the faintest resemblance to that of Poland or Hungary. Nor is it impossible, or even improbable, that public opinion may change in America in respect to the expediency of retaining the Northern and Southern States in the same Confederacy; and although unsuccessful in its recent attempt to establish its independence, the South may, at no distant period, obtain, as the result of an amicable arrangement, that separate political existence to secure which thousands of human lives have been sacrificed in vain. In any event, however, the people of the Southern States do well to accept their present lot with resignation, and are wise in endeavoring, by such constitutional means as are afforded to them, to secure respect and consideration at the hands of their former foes.

[*New York Herald*.]

THE CATTLE DISEASE IN ENGLAND.

The disease, we are told on high veterinary authority, is not new, since it destroyed great numbers of cattle more than a century ago, but if it had now appeared for the first time the farmers and graziers all over Europe could not be more helpless than they are, for all that is certainly known of it is that it has never been cured. Whether it be really incurable it is impossible as yet to determine; it is enough that all the attempts made by the most practised persons have hitherto failed. The disease is a strange one—a catarrhal affection producing in the blood an impurity which has a tendency to work itself outward in every direction. It is highly infectious—how infectious no one seems able to determine, though there are grave reasons for thinking that the places where diseased cattle have been confined are capable of communicating the pestilence without actual contact of the healthy with the sick. However that may be, it is the testimony of those most conversant with the matter that the origin of the plague was with the infected foreign cattle brought to the Islington Cattle Market. It has been just a month in the country, said Prof. Gamgee at the meeting the other day, and in that time nearly 2,000 cattle must have suffered. Without being alarmists, we must believe that this is a matter for the serious consideration of the Government and of private persons. The latter will, of course, look after their own interests, but it is the duty of the Government to watch over those of the traders and of the public also. How rapidly the disease spreads is shown by some circumstances we have already published. On a dairy farm in Surrey it broke out on Saturday, and out of a number of between thirty and forty cows eleven were affected on Monday. On the Essex marshes a herd of between seventy and eighty beasts was reduced to half that number in ten days. No pains can be too great to stop such a plague as this.

[*London Times*, Aug. 14.]

ATLANTIC STEAMSHIPS LOST.

The Glasgow makes the 29th steamship lost while plying between European ports and this country and Canada during the past twenty-seven years, or an average of about one a year since the commencement of ocean steam navigation between the two continents. The following is a list of the vessels placed in the order in which they were lost: 1. President; 2. Columbia; 3. Humboldt; 4. City of Glasgow; 5. City of Philadelphia; 6. Franklin; 7. Arctic; 8. Pacific; 9. Lyonnais; 10. Tempest; 11. Austria; 12. Canadian (No. 1); 13. New York; 14. Indian; 15. ago; 16. Hungarian; 17. Connaught; 18. United States; 19. Canadian (No. 2); 20. North Briton; 21. Caledonia; 22. Anglo Saxon; 23. Norwegian; 24. Georgia; 25. Bohemian; 26. City of New York; 27. Jura; 28. Iowa; 29. Glasgow.

Local Items.

To insure insertion, advertisers are requested to hand in their notices before 4 o'clock p. m.

The 1st Maine Battalion passed through our city yesterday—*en route*, we learn, for garrison duty in the upper Districts of this State.

**STRONG & KERIBSON.**—Here are the names of old business men of Charleston, represented by the scions of a new generation in Columbia, who have begun business in the general grocery line, and, as we suppose, under the countenance and instruction of their sires. They have both a fine capital of social and business reputation on which to begin, and, to insure their success, can do no better than keep in sight the sobriety, method, industry and intelligence which made their ancestors successful. Their stock seems to be large and various.

**NEW ADVERTISEMENTS.**—Attention is called to the following advertisements, which are published for the first time this morning:

- Jacob Bell—Citation.
- D. B. Heyward, Jr.—Male Stolen.
- John C. Seegers—Stolen Mule.
- Apply at this Office—Building Wanted.
- Fall Season of Stallion Bourbon.
- Jos. A. Hines—House and Sign Painting.
- Miss Shand—School Notice.
- Jacob Levin—Folder at Auction.
- Richard Caldwell—Syrup.
- " " —Vinegar.
- " " —Rice.
- Zeady, Scott & Bruns—Ladies' Garments.
- " " —Blue St. me.
- I respectus Charleston Daily News.
- Nurse & Baldwin—Commission Merchants.

SYMPTOMS OF THE RESULT OF THE FALL ELECTIONS.

The Republican State Convention of Pennsylvania has fully endorsed the policy of President Johnson, and has come out strong for the Monroe doctrine. But there is always a kink in the proceedings of the politicians. The weak point in the platform of the Pennsylvania Convention is the recommendation to confiscate the property of rebels above 10,000 dollars, and dispose of it for paying pensions to the soldiers. This is the business of the administration, and may be safely left to them, as a part of their policy of reconstruction, without any suggestion from the Pennsylvania Republican Convention.

As affairs look now, there is every likelihood that there will be a greater revolution in the Central States at the next elections than there was in 1862, when these States went against Mr. Lincoln on the ground of alleged indecision in his war policy. The change will be all the other way now. The course of Andy Johnson will, in all probability, be sustained by all the Central and Northern States, even including Maine, thus leaving New England, with the single exception of Maine—out in the cold. We should not be surprised to see such a result at the fall elections, in which event the Jacobins will be howling in outer darkness.—*New York Herald*.

RESTORATION OF THE SOUTH, SOCIALLY AND COMMERCIALY.

From every quarter of the South, we hear of her restoration, socially and commercially. Steamship lines have been re-established, telegraphic communications re-opened, mail facilities renewed and railroads reconstructed all over the country. This work of restoration is going on quietly but vigorously in the natural and legitimate way. But what are the politicians doing, both North and South? Instead of helping in this labor of restoration, they are making a great fuss about the nigger. The negro worshippers are striving to make another bleeding Knouts out of the South. This was begun by Chase, who soiled his political ermine by advancing mischievous sentiments about negro equality and all that, and the mischief he began is being carried on by his followers and partisans. It would be well for President Johnson to look after this style of partisans in office in the South. While the work of restoration is going on with success, socially and commercially, the politicians are busy with their plots, and casting obstacles in the way of the return of repose, prosperity and security to the Southern country. The President should turn all these fellows out of office.—*New York Herald*.

MISSISSIPPI STATE CONVENTION.

An ordinance has been passed by the Mississippi State Convention for a general election for county, district or ministerial officers. The convention also passed an ordinance declaring the ordinance of secession null and void, and repealing all the ordinances of the Convention of 1861, except the revenue ordinance, which the Legislature will act upon. At an informal meeting of the delegates in their individual capacities, a memorial was presented, expressed in eloquent terms, petitioning President Johnson to extend pardon to Jefferson Davis and Governor Clark, which was acquiesced in by all present.